

## **The Bank Crisis and the Rise of Whigs**

Bailey, Chapter 13

Supplement: [Jackson, "Veto of the Bank Bill"](#)

Hofstadter, "Andrew Jackson and the Rise of Liberal Capitalism" ADD

In what sense did Jackson's veto of the bill to recharter the 2nd Bank of the U.S. reflect his Democratic political philosophy? How does Jackson reinterpret Jeffersonian agrarianism to support entrepreneurialism?

Identifications:

2nd Bank of the United States, Jackson's Veto of the Bank Bill, Nicholas Biddle, kitchen cabinet, pet banks, Democratic party, Whig party, specie circular, Panic of 1837, "Tippecanoe and Tyler too"

Homework Questions:

1. Why had the Bank of the U.S. long been a source of public controversy?
2. Why did Jackson oppose the rechartering of the bank? Why did he veto the bank bill? If Jackson and Van Buren like capitalism, why didn't they support the Bank of the United States?
3. What steps did Jackson take to destroy the bank? Why? What were pet banks? Why did Jackson see these as acceptable alternatives to the national bank? Why did some believe Jackson had overstepped his bounds?
4. How did Jackson's policies on the bank and other issues lead to the formation of the Whigs?
5. How did the Whig and Democratic parties differ? What were the views of each on the federal role in the economy? How did each view the issue on the balance between federal power and states rights? To what types of individuals did each party appeal?
6. How do the parties of the nineteenth century compare to the parties of today?